GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2900
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2016
Online Tracking of Stocks
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Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to replace the existing system of manual upgradation of grain stocks data in various depots and on the transit with the system of online tracking and monitoring of stocks if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether the Government is considering to link all godowns of Food Corporation of India (FCI) through an online network to track real time stock positions and quality of grains stored and if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether the FCI has taken godowns on hiring basis, if so, the details thereof;
(d) whether the online tracking system will also be implemented in the godowns hired by the FCI and if so, the details therof; and
(e) the time by which all the godowns are likely to be linked with the network to track retail time stock positions and quality of grains stored?

Answer

MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)
(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. Food Corporation of India (FCI) has already taken up a project called "Depot Online System" to automate all the operations at the depot level and eliminate usage of manual registers by capturing data online at source and on a real time basis. This system can provide data on stocks in transit, but there will be no tracking enroute. Details are given in Annexure.
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(c): Yes, FCI hires godowns from Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC), State Warehousing Corporations (SWCs), State agencies and private parties for storage of foodgrains. The details indicating number of godowns hired on rent along with capacity during the last three years and the current year are given as below:-

As on	Number of Hired Godowns	Capacity of Hired godowns (in Lakh MT)
31.03.2013	1395	220.95
31.03.2014	1356	212.49
31.03.2015	1242	203.45
31.01.2016	1345	205.27

(d): Yes, the online system is being implemented initially in FCI's own depots and would be extended to godowns hired by FCI subsequently.
(e): It is expected to link all the own godowns of FCI by July, 2016. No timeline has been fixed for the hired godowns, since the work for these godowns is to be undertaken by the respective agencies, SWCs and CWC.
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